

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:**  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** County, PRMD and the Monte Rio Sewer.  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 07, 2007 4:17:51 PM  
**Attachments:**

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CC: When is someone going to step up and save the public interest and them from themselves???

February 7, 2007

TO: Mr. Pete Parkinson; Sonoma County Director  
Mr. Dwayne Starnes; Asst. Dir. and Monte Rio Sewer Project Mgr.  
Copies to: Federal and State regulators and funding agencies; assorted media.

RE: Monte Rio Wastewater Project.

Dear Mr. Parkinson and Starnes;

After going on nine years, the Monte Rio sewer project boils down to 2 major issues.

- #1. The dubious, irrational and now excessively costly decision regarding placing sewer treatment and disposal directly alongside the river waterway at Sheridans.
- #2. The ongoing and continuous manipulations and misrepresentations of the County, PRMD and Questa Engineering to justify the project and get outside funding.

In Oct '98 when this was formally presented to the community and elsewhere; the estimated capital cost of the choosen option at Sheridans TOTALED \$7.631M. That included \$400,000 for the Sheridan land cost; Engineering & Administration (Read Questa) expence at \$1,039,260. (They had it down to the nearest \$260 ???). Subtotal on construction was to be \$5.1963M. Source: Technical Memorandum #3, Table 7; Estimated Capital Costs prepared by Questa Engineering Sept. '98. Known to be ridiculous then and proven to be far more ridiculous now!

In the latest RR Times, PMRD Starnes is quoted that as long as construction bids come in @ \$14M -\$16M construction will begin in late summer. Whatever the

increased total capital costs are now; its far from being due to inflation. There is a 9 year trail of understated cost numbers to the point of misfeasance to gain justification, approvals, get the orchestrated Prop. 218 vote, increase the dollar amount voted, narrowly survive the voter protest and solicit outside funding. Officials lied then and are lying now.

Questa and its' vendors have likely already billed and received over \$2M to date w/o a spade being put in the ground. Tell and show me I'm wrong. They did the original site location surveys and testings, produced the extensive Tech Memorandums, DEIR, EIR. They contracted the plant design, listed at the time in PRMD records at \$650,000. Norm Hantzche from the same records bills the County \$90/hr just for himself for all his participations. It could be higher now. Adding to that Questas' other staff costs and expenses billed after 9 years; How much does that total now?

The PRMD (lead agency) should be allocating and listing your agency salary costs and total expenses relating to the project directly to this account including Richard Holmer (gone), Ted Walker (gone), your salaries et al.. How much is all that after nine years and counting? It's interesting the PRMD and County has rotated personnel but the constants from the beginning continue to be Reilly and Questa. Taxpayers county wide are paying for this boondoggle even though only a very restricted group given misrepresented costs was allowed to vote for it.

So factoring in all of the above including whatever the real cost for the Sheridan property is to be, the capital costs are well over \$20M with still no cap. It's suspected that there are further project costs intentionally not listed like Caltrans having to accommodate and likely pay for Hwy. 116 alterations and modifications. \$20M divided by the 400 supposed properties now gives an average subsidy of \$50,000 per property. How high is that watermark eventually going to be?

It's no secret in the Monte Rio community who the very few individuals are owning the most extensive residential and commercial property to directly benefit most from this project and subsidy. It's also known as public record how they are tied over the nine year period to Mike Reilly; contributions and otherwise. If there is fairness and justice, that could be eventually addressed at another time in another venue.

With this project; and the County and PRMDs' continued bureaucratic complicity; any semblance of integrity by Sonoma County officials is negligible. You no longer deserve public confidence and the County and PRMD should be ashamed.

I welcome a rebuttal and ask the courtesy of a response and answer to questions.. A non reply will be taken that you cannot allow yourself to be effected by the truth.

Sincerely;

John Bauer

